Mr. Tudki RAMANNA GOWDA.—Is it not a fact that subjects sent up by the members from the malnad generally lapse?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—No.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—Is it difficult for the Government to furnish printed answers to questions not actually taken up for discussion?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—As members can repeat them at another session, there is no need to furnish printed answers.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—Will not such an arrangement enable the members to tackle fresh questions at each session instead of dealing with the old ones?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—It is left to the members to raise such questions as they consider important.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA.—What is the percentage of questions and representations actually discussed in the Assembly?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—Notice.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET—*contd.*

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA said that the budget under discussion was really not a surplus budget, as claimed by the Government, since in balancing it they had entrenched upon the interest on the Famine Insurance Fund to the tune of Rs. 3 lakhs. This amount had to be legitimately credited to the corpus of the fund itself. Its utilisation could have been justified if it had been for protective works calculated to avert famine, such as for restoration of tanks.

The FINANCIAL SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT (Rajasevanipuna S. SHAMANNA) explained that the utilisation of the interest on this fund was not a recent innovation, but had been continuing for a large number of years, and even for spending it for the purposes mentioned it would be necessary to first credit it to the revenue side. More than this amount was spent on irrigation and tank works. To give only one example, Government had sanctioned Rs. 5 lakhs for the Marconahalli reservoir for expenditure in the year 1937-38.

Messrs. K. M. KRISHNAPPA GOWDA and T. MADIAH GOWDA said that there would be no objection to the step taken provided that the additional income under land revenue, as a result of the Marconahalli project would in future be credited to the Famine Insurance Fund and not to the general revenues.

Mr. S. SHAMANNA replied that according to the budget system, particular items of revenue could not be earmarked for particular purposes.

Continuing, **Mr. MADIAH GOWDA** remarked that the anticipations of the Government with regard to land revenue collections for the budget year appeared to be too sanguine to be realised. No doubt the receipts during the current year were more than the budget estimates, but there was no guarantee that the same would be the case in the following year also. And even during the current year, the high percentage of collection was mostly due to the coercive steps freely and mercilessly resorted to by the revenue authorities of late, causing untold misery and hardship to the helpless raiyats. He felt that such a state of affairs, if allowed to continue, would only lower the reputation of the Government. Local officers were devoting all their time and energy for improving collections instead of bestowing due attention on other activities resulting in public good. The Government were too optimistic in anticipating a large realisation from land revenue under the existing economic condition of the raiyat. The budget also provided for large receipts under Notice, Isthihar and Jafti fees, contrary to the promises made by the Government in the past that such penal levies would be dispensed with as far as possible. He implored the Government to bear in mind that generally no raiyat would be unwilling to pay the land revenue which he was due to pay. If anyone did not pay, it always meant that he was unable to pay. Still, the Government went on bringing lands to auction for arrears of land revenue and if in such cases the owners entered upon their lands, *takrar takhtas* would at once be filed. The fact that an income of Rs. 2 lakhs under

takrar takhtas and Rs. 40,000 under various other fines had been provided for in the new budget went to show the attitude which the Government wanted their revenue officials to take up with regard to collection work. He represented that such a policy should not be adopted by Government.

The speaker was glad that the receipts under income-tax were expected to be larger in the budget year. But he was of opinion that a still larger revenue should have been provided for. He was for improving this revenue by enhancing the existing minimum and maximum rates, with a view to give the much-needed relief to agriculturists. As regards excise, he was glad that there was a steady fall in revenue, but at the same time he was afraid that the fall might be due to illicit distillation instead of to reduced consumption.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman), referring to Mr. Madiah Gowda's remarks about collection work in the districts, regretted the aspersions cast on a set of hard-working Government officials. He reminded the House that whatever steps the officials took were taken under the rules which were not only in force in the State for decades past but also similar to those in force everywhere else in the country. It would not be correct to say that officials had suddenly taken resort to coercive steps The speaker himself had been in the State service long enough and was in a position to state, from actual personal knowledge, that Government at the present time were showing the raiyats more concessions than ever before. But in saying this he did not mean to deny that indiscretions might have been committed here and there, and if such things were brought to notice, he assured the House that prompt action would be taken to deal with them. Generally speaking, however, no undue hardship was caused to the raiyats and it would be very wrong to say that larger collections were altogether due to an excess of enthusiasm on the part of local officials.

He did not also agree that fines were levied as a matter of course. In fact, it was to minimise the hardships resulting from the levy of fines that revenue collections had to be made promptly. But if instalments were not paid at all, the authorities could not help taking coercive measures against the defaulters. Lands would have to be brought to auction and resumed in cases where bidders were not forthcoming. And in such cases, according to rules, if the owners entered upon the lands and cultivated them, *takrar takhtas* would have to be filed and fines levied. Notwithstanding such rules, orders had been passed by Government to the effect that the rules should not be given effect to as a matter of course, and that in all cases where the dues were paid, the lands might be given back to the owners themselves. This certainly was a concession which the raiyats should appreciate.

The speaker next contradicted the statement that the revenue officials were devoting all their time and energy to collection work and sacrificing all other work. Of course a good part of their time and attention was devoted to it and there was nothing wrong in it as revenue work was a primary duty of theirs. Otherwise, collections might be made but not get into the treasuries.

In conclusion, he exhorted the members to remember that all the difficulties complained of could be avoided by prompt payment of land revenue by the people concerned. In special cases, however, parties could approach the authorities for special concessions and it was needless for the speaker to assure the House of every sympathy in all deserving cases.

At this stage **Mr. Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY** brought to notice that in cases in which the assessment on a sub-number was not paid, the crops standing on the entire number were being attached. Secondly, in order to keep watch over the crops attached, peons were being deputed and the land-owners compelled to pay for these peons also in addition to the land revenue arrears. He requested the Government not to throw this extra burden on the agriculturists.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that this procedure had been provided in

the Land Revenue Code itself. The difficulty was that in channel areas, for example, some one would be tilling the land, the owner himself being an absentee landlord. If the land revenue was not paid even when the crop was satisfactory, it would be impossible to realise the demand without attaching the crop and engaging a watchman to guard it. In such cases, there would be no justification in the Government paying the salary of the watchman. As regards the other complaint of Mr. Siddalinga Setty, he admitted that coercive steps should be taken only against defaulters and he would see to it that those who were not in arrear were not made to suffer.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA represented that as part of coercive processes, even tiles and zinc-sheet roofs of residential quarters were being removed and taken away, not to speak of attachment of movable properties, cattle and agricultural implements, which was clearly wrong. He requested that such action on the part of the officials should be severely noticed and suitable relief provided for the poor raiyats.

Mr. T. SIDDALINGAIYA remarked that it was unfortunate that the economic condition of the raiyat in the villages should be so poor while the standard of living of people in the cities was sufficiently high. The Government should strive their utmost to improve the economic position of the raiyats and to relieve their indebtedness. For doing this they must first hold an economic survey. In the meanwhile, the grant for rural reconstruction should be increased substantially by effecting retrenchment in establishments, etc. He suggested that the Dewan and other high officers of Government should pay surprise visits to the villages, freely mix with the raiyats, and see things for themselves, when alone they could form a correct impression of rural conditions. At present, tour programmes of higher officers were being circulated in advance and the local officers given time to make everything appear trim. And the Government were also depending too much upon the reports of local officers instead of deriving first-hand knowledge of affairs.

He appealed to the Government not to curtail the civil liberties of the people and not to prohibit raiyats' conferences under the unfounded apprehension that these would prove dangerous to public safety.

In connection with land revenue collections, he suggested that even if lands were attached for arrears of land revenue, they should not be auctioned to third parties for nominal prices. It was the duty of Government to restore the lands to their original owners as soon as the arrears were paid. A Government which, by an amendment of the Civil Procedure Code, had prohibited money-lenders from arresting defaulting debtors should not reserve to themselves the power of unduly harassing the tax-payers.

He concluded with a powerful plea for a sympathetic attitude on the part of the Government towards the raiyats and for the provision of adequate educational facilities in the villages.

Mr. B. P. BASAPPA SETTY was sorry that the provision made for Coffee Loans was only Rs. 1 lakh as against Rs. 3 lakhs provided in the previous year. No doubt, much of the provision for the current year was going to lapse but this was due, in his opinion, to the delay in sanctioning loans. At least Rs. 10 lakhs would be necessary for granting loans during the budget year. He also suggested that in future, loans should be sanctioned before the end of April of each year.

The PRESIDENT replied that, if necessary, additional funds would be allotted for granting loans to coffee growers.

Mr. BASAPPA SETTY next thanked the Government for starting the Coffee Curing Works at Chikmagalur and urged for special facilities for transportation of coffee seeds.

He urged that the grant for Moral and Material Improvement which had remained at the same level for several years past should be enhanced.

The elementary education scheme, though in force for the past 6 years, had not led to useful results since the

responsibility for working the scheme had been shifted on to the local bodies which had no resources of their own. There was everywhere a genuine desire for the spread of education in the villages and the member prayed for suitable grants being provided by the Government, at least for maintaining all the existing schools, if not also for opening more schools.

In regard to the problem of drinking water wells, the member requested that Government should no longer delay taking up the work of providing wells in all parts of the State with reference to a comprehensive plan. He very earnestly pleaded that Government should prepare and adhere to a 5-year or 10-year plan in this behalf.

The burden of land assessment was weighing heavily on the hard-hit agriculturist and there was no justification for levying at present the rates fixed 30 years ago when the prices of agricultural produce were ruling high. A general economic survey should be undertaken urgently and suitable measures adopted to relieve the indebtedness of the raiyats.

He next pleaded for the grant of further constitutional reforms, and on the analogy of British Indian Legislatures, urged the appointment of non-official Presidents for both the constitutional Houses in the State.

Mr. K. P. CHENNABASAVIAH, while thanking the Government for the various measures of relief extended to the agriculturists, put up a plea for special educational facilities like night schools for the children of agriculturists since these could not send them to the day schools without detriment to their normal avocation.

He next suggested that for drinking water wells in all the villages, the Government should see that hand pumps were provided, so that the necessity for providing separate wells for caste-Hindus, Adidravidas, Adikarnatakas, etc., might be avoided and much expenditure saved.

Many of the wells in the Tumkur District had dried up because of the shortage of water in tanks. This in turn was due to an indiscriminate extension of *atchkats*. He therefore suggested the absolute necessity of restricting the *atchkat* with reference to the present capacity of each tank.

The member next referred to the economic position of the agriculturists and explained that a fourth of the entire income from agriculture had to be given away in the shape of wages and hence it was not at all profitable. He therefore pleaded that Government should give them all the help they could in order to make them feel that life was not a burden to them. He also suggested that the grants sanctioned to village panchayets should be spent only on such items as were directly beneficial to the villagers and not on ephemeral items like beautification.

He next requested that tobacco cultivation might be tried and a barn established in the Sira Taluk as climate and other conditions were quite favourable for the purpose.

Mr. K. VENKATASWAMI IYER, who spoke next, congratulated the Government on presenting a surplus budget and expressed the hope that the estimated revenues would be realised in full by the end of the year.

He expressed his appreciation of the keen anxiety on the part of the Dewan, as shown in his Opening Address, to find a solution for major problems like illiteracy, poverty, and unemployment so largely prevalent in the State. But seeing that the rest of the world was moving with electric speed, it would not be wise statesmanship to make action in these respects dependent upon an improvement in the financial position of the State. If it were so, he was afraid these problems could never be solved. In this view, he suggested that the Government should tackle the problems immediately.

Suggestions were frequently made for the appointment of a committee for conducting an economic survey in the State. Such surveys had been conducted by several rural reconstruction centres in the Madras Presidency, and this State could easily profit by the results thereof. After all, conditions in Mysore were not very different from those in Madras Presidency. If at all,

it would be more profitable to appoint a committee for suggesting ways and means of solving the three great problems, *viz.*, illiteracy, poverty and unemployment. It had been already ascertained that the *per capita* income of an Indian was miserably low and his indebtedness was hopelessly heavy. The condition of the Mysore raiyat was equally bad and the Government must set about providing funds for saving him. As regards the measures already undertaken by the Government for relieving agricultural indebtedness such as the formation of land mortgage banks, etc., he was afraid that these were helpful only to the well-to-do raiyats and not to the poorer classes who needed relief more urgently. He therefore suggested the inauguration of a rural credit system as in Madras, suitable ways and means for gradually recouping the money being devised. It was necessary to have a 5-year or a 10-year programme for improving the percentage of literacy, reducing indebtedness and relieving unemployment. If the Government considered it necessary, they might appoint a committee or draw up a plan themselves. These were questions which admitted of no further delay. In the light of the above suggestions, he urged that the budget under discussion should be recast and the same policy should be adopted by the framers of future budgets also.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY represented that the budget allotment for ayurvedic dispensaries should be augmented substantially. Though a heavy expenditure was incurred annually on the Medical Department, owing to the costliness of the allopathic treatment, it had not been found possible to open new dispensaries on a large scale. It seemed to him that medical aid could be more easily extended to all parts of the State by opening ayurvedic dispensaries which were very much cheaper than allopathic dispensaries. Even as regards treatment, he was of opinion that ayurvedic medicines were more effective so far as Indians were concerned and the medicines also could be prepared locally out of indigenous herbs and roots which could be had at a nominal cost. Unfortunately, the ayurvedic system was fast dying out for want of encouragement and the member pleaded that special steps should be taken for popularising it. He also pleaded that arrangements should be made for training a much larger number of candidates every year in the Ayurvedic College for manning the dispensaries when these were opened in the village parts.

The Bureau of Health Education was deputing to the districts a Health Lecturer with cinema equipment. As all the interior parts of the districts could not be served by this arrangement, the speaker suggested that each District Board be made to provide itself with the necessary equipment, half the cost thereof being borne by the Government. Each of the Lecturers would then be able to visit all the interior villages, attend the shandies, etc., and give demonstrations as to how to avoid diseases and prevent the spread of epidemics.

He next referred to the work of the Mysore University and observed that while very large grants were being made to the University, it had not helped to solve the unemployment problem. On the other hand, it was responsible for the steady growth in the number of unemployed which had assumed almost alarming proportions. The University should be asked to take effective steps for solving the problem, and in future to so re-model the courses of study as to enable the students to decide for themselves, before leaving the University, which particular occupation they would take up after completing their course.

As regards primary education, he remarked in the first place that much of the heavy expenditure incurred on it was going to waste as the education given was not of the proper kind. Secondly he observed that though the Government had promised to provide every village panchayet with a school under the Elementary Education Regulation and though this Regulation had been in force for so many years, no perceptible progress had been made. In these circumstances, he proposed to submit ere long to the department a

scheme calculated to be of practical value to the pupils and requested that that scheme be adopted by the Government.

It was absolutely necessary to increase the provision for drinking water wells in the villages from Rs. 1,75,000 to at least Rs. 3 lakhs.

The member next suggested that the formation of model villages should be proceeded with more briskly. He proposed to submit certain constructive proposals for consideration in this connection also.

Town municipalities had been deriving large incomes from tolls for a long time past, and in the hope of receiving them in future also they had committed themselves to large items of expenditure on electric lighting and water supply schemes, etc. But latterly, the Government were appropriating to themselves the income from toll-gates, much to the prejudice of local bodies. For this reason the member prayed that the local bodies should be compensated adequately.

Mr. PRESIDENT replied that in the usual course the local bodies would get compensation for loss of revenue from toll-gates.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUFF SAHIB congratulated the Government on being able to present a surplus budget. The steady improvement in land revenue collection augured well for the State, but with the help of larger collections it had become the duty of the Government to provide for the clamouring raiyat more irrigational projects, better grazing facilities, and larger takavi loans on more favourable terms than in the past. The allotment for the restoration of major and minor tanks at present was too meagre, and the districts of Kolar and Tumkur, which were famine-stricken areas, deserved special facilities in this direction. Though estimates had been prepared for several tank works in the Goribidnur Taluk and deputations had waited on the Dewan in that connection and even *mutchalikas* had been taken in respect of the raiyat's contribution for certain schemes like the Kudumlakunte tank, the Badimarlur tank, etc., these seemed to have been dropped subsequently for want of funds. Certain other schemes had been dropped on the ground that the return would be inadequate. The Thippaganahalli tank project was one such example. He felt that Government were not justified in expecting a return of 4 or 5 per cent in all cases, including the drier tracts. The member pleaded that special preference should be shown in such cases and schemes taken up even though a low return was anticipated. In such cases, he added that a part of the Famine Insurance Fund could be utilised for tank works. In this view the several schemes contemplated in the two districts must be proceeded with. As regards takavi loans, the member represented that the allotment made at present was too inadequate to meet all deserving cases. If larger funds were allotted, many more applications would be forthcoming.

Speaking of the Excise Department, the member pointed out that the grant of Rs. 3,000 for the improvement of date groves was unnecessary. In the Goribidnur Taluk, several *gomal* and *banjar* lands, the benefit of which were being enjoyed by agriculturists from time immemorial, had suddenly been enclosed and declared as reserves. It was not evident under what law such measures had been taken. Under Section 16 of the Forest Regulation, notices had to be issued and objections called for before declaring an area as reserve. No such procedure had been adopted in the case mentioned. The interests of agriculture were being sacrificed in favour of excise interests which were of a comparatively recent origin. As a result of shutting out the raiyats from the date groves, small industries like basket-weaving, mat-weaving, etc., had become things of the past, the raiyats could not collect fuel and their cattle were deprived of grazing on the *gomal* lands. The raiyats were forced to give up goat and sheep rearing and consequently they would get no manure. In stray cases where innocent raiyats, unaware of the fact that the lands had been declared as date reserves, entered upon the lands, they

were prosecuted and fined. At the same time the lands were not closed to some people who were in the good books of the persons in direct charge thereof. Thus it was only honest folk that were suffering, and the object of Government in declaring the lands as reserves was also being frustrated. The member did not know who was really responsible for such a woeful state of affairs. He urged that the policy of extending the date-groves should be given up.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA reviewing the figures relating to land revenue, pointed out that the receipts from notice fees, etc., during the current year were very much larger than the anticipated amount, and remarked that this indicated the extent to which the raiyats had been subjected to hardships in spite of the existing economic depression. And he was sorry to find that for the budget year also the receipts provided for under this head were the same as in the current year. Judging from the existing state of affairs, it would work as a great hardship on the raiyats if the Government tried to realize the full demand under land revenue. He prayed that collections be made with due sympathy and consideration for the raiyats, and in this view, he urged that there should be no idea of levying fines at all.

The member appealed for increased grants for primary education, rural reconstruction, police, and medical. In particular, he emphasised the need for improving the pay and prospects of police constables and primary school teachers.

The member concluded with an appeal for an increase in the grant for Bangalore City improvements. The city municipality was put to considerable difficulty in having to pay Rs. 4 lakhs annually for liquidating the debt incurred in connection with its water supply scheme. Even sanitary and drainage schemes were not making good progress for want of funds. The Government would be helping the municipality very much by reducing the amount payable by the municipality on account of water supply.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR remarked at the outset that even though the total revenues of the State had increased by 50 lakhs within the past 6 years, there was not the slightest increase in the grants for nation-building departments. On the other hand, the allotment for Education was less by half a lakh of rupees, that for Agriculture by 4 lakhs of rupees and that for Industries and Commerce and for Co-operative Societies by one lakh of rupees in each case.

Mr. S. SHAMANNA explained that the additional revenue went to cover the deficit of Rs. 60 lakhs appearing in the previous budgets and the level of expenditure could not therefore be raised. If this extra revenue had not been realised, the large deficit would have continued.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR felt sorry that latterly Government had not adhered to the principle of limiting the normal expenditure to the normal income. The Financial Secretary's Explanatory Memorandum clearly showed that, but for the device of drawing from the reserves, there would have been a deficit of Rs. 8 lakhs or more in the new budget. Successive Retrenchment Committees had condemned this method of balancing the budget, and had expressed the opinion that the normal expenditure must be covered by the normal revenue, and this, after providing for a reserve of at least Rs. 2 lakhs, and if possible Rs. 5 lakhs, every year. He also took objection to the system of crediting revenues derived from capital works to normal revenues; because, the yield from such works was of a fluctuating nature and the State's expenditure could not be based upon it. A reserve fund should be built up out of such incomes, only the interest thereon being utilised, if at all, for capital works. Formerly there were several reserve funds; but now excepting the Famine Insurance Fund, every other fund had vanished. The debt position of the State had mounted up to nearly Rs. 9 crores and a very huge sum of money was being paid in the shape of interest thereon. The speaker pointed out that the agriculturist was contributing to

the State exchequer a good part of what he earned by the sweat of his brow and a good part of such collections was paid away by the Government in a lump as interest. At that rate, he was afraid that Government would not be able in future to command much credit in the money market.

Mr. S. SHAMANNA pointed out that the inference drawn by the member was not correct since obviously he had not reckoned the interest charges earned annually by the Government. If the Government were paying more by way of interest on loans raised by them, they were also getting more by way of interest on their own investments, and income from productive works. The net surplus on this account was Rs. 6 lakhs as shown in Part II of the Annexure to the Explanatory Memorandum. Besides, they had also made sufficient provision for repaying the different loans by way of adequate sinking funds for the purpose.

Thereupon, **Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR** doubted the justifiability of the Government launching upon speculative concerns however profitable for the time being.

Mr. S. SHAMANNA replied that the Government did not consider their undertakings as speculative.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR next referred to the statement of Assets and Liabilities and observed that while the cash liabilities amounted to Rs. 25 crores, the State had no liquid assets to a corresponding extent. They were all in the form of capital works which could not be converted into money. It was necessary to have easily convertible assets at least to the extent of the cash liabilities.

Speaking of the amenities provided for the village population, he pointed out that more than 8,000 villages were still in need of drinking water wells, schools and dispensaries, which were three of the vital needs of modern life. About 12,000 villages had no good roads and no co-operative societies or tanks. Even though a sum of 40 to 50 lakhs of rupees was being spent on the various establishments, he doubted whether the people derived benefit to the extent of even one anna in the rupee.

In regard to the Dewan's observation in the course of his Opening Address to the effect that the raiyats were paying land revenue readily and willingly, the member explained that the raiyat paid not out of any spare money but money intended to be paid as instalments due to his creditors. In other words, to the extent that land revenue was paid the debts which might have been cleared were remaining unpaid. Then, it was not correct to draw the inference that simply because land revenue was paid, the economic condition of the raiyat had improved. If the raiyats' economic position should improve, it could only be done by the Government curtailing their establishments as well as their expenditure on account of salaries, etc., and utilising the savings derived thereby for the said purpose.

Continuing, the member advocated the use of khadi and other home-made goods by the highest officers of Government so that those in the lower ranks might be induced or encouraged to do likewise. This would result in giving a fillip to the growth of indigenous cottage industries in the State, and ultimately all the subjects of the State would take a vow to use only locally made articles as far as possible.

As regards the drain of Rs. 24½ lakhs in the shape of subsidy paid to the Imperial Government by the State, he felt that the State should firmly fight for its abolition and have it wiped off without further delay. In this connection he remarked that if only there had been Responsible Government in the State, the people would have point-blank refused to pay this iniquitous levy; and he concluded with an appeal to the Dewan to strive and see that in his regime a Responsible Government was established in the State so that the people might exercise an effective control over the administration and improve the finances of the State by framing the budget on more democratic lines.

Mr. A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK in supporting the plea of the previous speakers for increased educational facilities in

the State, animadverted the action of Government in enhancing the fees in high schools and colleges. Children of rich parents could afford to pay the fees at the enhanced rates, and very poor students could hope for free-studentships and scholarships. The latter could also avail themselves of various free boarding homes or choultries. It was the children of parents belonging to the middle class that suffered most on account of the enhancement. In this view he prayed that fees be reduced to their original level. This would become possible if the Government grant was enhanced. For doing this he suggested that the existing rates of travelling allowances both to the officers and to the members of the constitutional Houses be reduced, if necessary. In this connection he suggested that after taking over the Bangalore-Harihar line from the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company in January 1938, the Government should issue railway passes to the members instead of paying travelling allowances in cash.

Mr. Bhupalam CHANDRASEKHARA SETTY referred to the industrial enterprises in the State and observed that it was surprising that in spite of the rise in prices of iron and steel, the Bhadravati Iron and Steel Works had not shown any profit after providing for depreciation. He hoped that Government would take all steps necessary to make the works yield substantial profits in future years. Government were deriving an income of Rs. 4 lakhs from the levy of excise duty on matches. This income could be easily doubled by starting some more match factories. The member regretted that the Kolar Gold Fields had been given away to a foreign company without anything like a national outlook, and hoped that at least in future such licenses or contracts would be given only to local companies. The member pleaded that sales agencies in respect of various local industrial products should similarly be entrusted only to the subjects of the State. He also urged the need for a central organisation charged with the duty of promoting cottage industries in the State which alone could afford occupation and profit to the raiyats.

In conclusion, the speaker endorsed the suggestion of Mr. Bhashyam Aiyangar that the establishment of Responsible Government in the State would prove to be a sovereign remedy for all the ills from which the State was at present suffering

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA expressed disappointment at finding no improvement in the new budget. He had hoped that the introduction of provincial autonomy in the British Indian provinces would have influenced the Government to frame the budget in a more democratic spirit than before. But the time-honoured and monotonous practice of repeating the same headings and the same figures had been resorted to in the budget under discussion. No special heed had been paid to the departments relating to moral and material developments. Surely this would not have been the case if there had been Responsible Government in the State.

Referring to the land revenue budget, he stated that in Madras, the Interim Ministry had proposed remissions of land revenue to the extent of 25 per cent as could be seen from the programme of work announced by them. They had also appointed a special committee to consider what measures of relief would help the raiyats at the present juncture. Action on similar lines was being taken in Bombay also. It was unfortunate that nothing like that was done in Mysore, beyond giving the assurance in the Dewan's Opening Address that no additional taxes would be levied in future.

Mr. MARIYAPPA was also sorry that no change was in evidence in regard to the excise policy of the State. The Bombay Ministry had stated that their aim was to bring about gradual prohibition. The member wished that a similar announcement had been made in the Dewan's Speech.

The measures adopted by the State for relieving the indebtedness of the agriculturists did not go far enough. The most effective way of tackling the problem was for the Government

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themselves to take over all the debts and settling them for the agriculturists, the amount in each case being recovered in easy instalments from the agriculturists. Some such system was in vogue in Bhavanagar State.

As regards education, the additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 for primary education was too meagre. A sum of Rs. 10 lakhs at least should be allotted if illiteracy should be wiped off in the country. No doubt, schools existed in many villages, but many of them were single-teacher schools. These schools were found to be of not much avail to anybody, as described by the Education Commissioner with the Government of India.

It was a duty of the Government to see that each village was provided with a drinking water well, a dispensary and a school and then with optional items like electric lights. And if even these necessities were not provided, there would be no justification in the Government collecting any taxes from the people. In some cases the Government were showing greater readiness in providing luxuries like electric lights without giving the more necessary requirements such as drinking water wells. This, the member remarked, was a wrong way of doing things.

Mr. MAHOMED MUSTAPHA SAHIB referred to the pitiable condition of the raiyat classes and deplored that all coercive steps resorted to by the revenue officers were being directed against them. Government, no doubt, were pleased to order relief on certain lines, but these generally went to benefit only the middle class men and not those who needed relief most. For this reason he requested that special instructions be issued to the Amildars to treat the hard-hit raiyats with special sympathy. He appealed to Government to help the raiyats in all possible ways, and to exempt children of agriculturists from payment of school fees. He suggested, in conclusion, that books should be supplied free of cost to such of the pupils as were really unable to buy them.

Mr. DONDE GOWDA did not agree with the Dewan's statement that the generality of the raiyats were paying their land revenue dues without any difficulty. Agriculture was not at all a paying occupation and agriculturists were living a hand-to-mouth existence. After the passing of the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation, the raiyats were not commanding any credit from the local money-lenders and the place of these had been taken by Pathan money-lenders whose rates of interest were literally ruining the raiyats. The Government should take steps to put an end to such usurious rates of interest and provide cheaper credit for agriculturists.

The speaker next referred to the condition of major and minor tanks in the State and said that most of them had silted up or breached and remained unattended to for years together. He suggested that the authorities should take a census of all such tanks and see to their restoration in accordance with a definite programme.

With regard to the financial position of village panchayets, the member observed that all their accumulated funds were invested in Government Savings Banks and the interest accrued thereon was being appropriated by the Government themselves, to the prejudice of the panchayets. If the interest receipts had been allowed to be utilized by the panchayets, they would have improved inter-village communications and provided themselves with drinking water wells. He hoped that these items would be provided by the Government themselves in view of the income that was accruing to them in the shape of interest on savings bank deposits held on behalf of the panchyets.

At this stage, the Assembly rose for lunch and met again at 3-40 p.m.

Swearing in of a Member.

Mr. M. R. PUTTASWAMI, Excise Contractor, Arsikere, made the prescribed oath of allegiance to His Highness the Maharaja and then took his seat.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET—*contd.*

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA